

materials shall be given out after competitive bidding, the successful bidder shall promptly execute a formal contract to be approved as to its form, terms and conditions by said commission, and shall also execute and deliver to said commission a good and sufficient bond to be approved by said commission to the State of Maryland in not less than the amount of the contract price. In no case shall any such bond be approved or accepted unless the obligators bind themselves therein to the payment of all just debts for labor and materials incurred by the bidder in the construction and improvement of the road contracted for. To all such bids there shall be attached the certified check of the bidder, and the bidder who has the contract awarded to him and who fails to promptly and properly execute the contract and bond shall forfeit the said contract. The said check shall be taken and considered as liquidated damages, and not a penalty, for failure of said bidder to execute said contract and bond. Upon the execution of said contract and bond by a successful bidder his check shall be returned to him. The amount of the check to be attached to the bid shall be based on the aggregate amount of the bid submitted and covered by the following table:

Aggregate Amount of Bid	Amount of Check
Less than \$30,000.....	\$ 500
\$30,000 to \$50,000.....	1,000
50,000 to 75,000.....	1,500
75,000 to 125,000.....	2,000
125,000 to 175,000.....	2,500
175,000 to 225,000.....	3,000
225,000 to 275,000.....	3,500
275,000 to 325,000.....	4,000
325,000 to 375,000.....	5,000
375,000 to 425,000.....	6,000
425,000 to 475,000.....	7,000
475,000 or more.....	7,500

The checks of the unsuccessful bidders shall be returned to them after opening the bids and awarding the contract to the successful bidder.

The said commission, with the consent of a majority of all its members, may itself do any part or parts of any such work under such conditions in every respect as it may prescribe by day labor, whenever the chief engineer, in writing, shall recommend that course.